

THE JOHN GRAY BLOUNT PAPERS

1803

Ira Hollowell¹ to John Gray Blount

AT PLANTAISHON Jan 4th 1803

M^r JG Blount

D^r Sir

by m^r Benston I reced your Letter Date Dec^r 31 After waiting for Danils I tried to write you word that I Could git the Corn Down the Dich to Ingls landon [landing] by m^r Jas Gibbs I rote you the 1^d of Jan 1803 which he told me he was Going to washing[ton] the next day to see you on tusday th 4 I heard he was not Gon I then rote this by way of Curretuk I also tride to Get Cap^t williams² to take the Corn up he Could not until he went to washington I also spoke to m^r Emery to Go & see you as his Boat was largier than Danils I entended to have trid to [illegible] out all the Corn but the snow and rainey wether purvented me in that as I had to work out Dors therefor I wish you to send a Boat that will Cary 100 ble at once if to be had it I can git 4 Canos [canoes] I can put on Board 16 ble pur Day you Can send the rice Down by the Boat that Coms after Corn if you think best to save it tho it Cannot be Don til Coms Drier for all the lower side of the Field next to the road is under water & seams likely to Continue which put me behind Hand in my Bisness for I cannot Burn the Brush or split out the reails I want or make no hand of raling of the logs I now see the want of the mill Dich (2) being Don so as to Dreain the plantashon therefore I wish you to be redy when Ever it lise Drie so as I Can work to advanteg to send me all the help you Can spar tho I hope to see y[ou] at Tab Cort [Tarboro court?] as m^r Bell³ has apeld [appealed?] on 2 warints about the road I shall Do the best I Can with my bisnes until I hear from or see you I shal give m^r Bell

¹Ira Hollowell was overseer of John Gray Blount's plantation near Lake Mattamuskeet. Alice Barnwell Keith and William H. Masterson (eds.), *The John Gray Blount Papers* (Raleigh: State Department of Archives and History, 3 volumes, 1952-1965), II, 254, herein-after cited as Keith and others, *Blount Papers*.

²Hollowell was probably referring to William Williams, a ship captain who seems to have been reared as Thomas Blount's ward. Keith and others, *Blount Papers*, I, 226; II, 326-328, 329-331, 334n, 613-614.

³This probably refers to Sheriff Elijah Bell, whose county has not been identified. Keith and others, *Blount Papers*, III, 404.